United Nations S/2007/547

Security Council

Distr.: General
18 September 2007

Original: English

Letter dated 14 September 2007 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1521 (2003) concerning Liberia addressed to the President of the Security Council

On behalf of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1521 (2003) concerning Liberia, I have the honour to transmit herewith, for the information of the members of the Security Council, two letters addressed to me by the Chairman of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, dated 7 May and 23 July 2007, respectively (annexes I and II).

The Committee has been informed by the Kimberley Process secretariat that the two attached letters together constitute the report of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme as encouraged by the Security Council in paragraph 2 of resolution 1753 (2007), and that the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme has no objection to the distribution of this report.

I should therefore be grateful if the present letter and its annexes could be circulated to the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Nassir Abdulaziz **Al-Nasser**
Chairman
Security Council Committee established pursuant
to resolution 1521 (2003) concerning Liberia

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Annex I

Letter dated 7 May 2007 from the Chairman of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1521 (2003) concerning Liberia

I have the honour to write to you in my capacity as Chairman of the Kimberley Process.

As encouraged by paragraph 2 of resolution 1753 (2007) of the Security Council, I have the pleasure to inform you that Liberia's application to join the Kimberley Process has been accepted, following a positive recommendation to that effect by the Participation Committee of the Kimberley Process. Liberia was admitted to the Kimberley Process effective as of **4 May 2007**.

The Government of Liberia and the relevant working groups of the Kimberley Process have expressed their intention to work on the recommendations of the third Kimberley Process expert mission to Liberia relating to the post-admission period. Implementation of many of these recommendations is an ongoing effort. However, Liberia will join the Working Group of Artisanal/Alluvial Producers (Recommendation 10) and take part in its discussions at the Intersessional meeting of Kimberley Process working groups in Brussels between 12 to 14 June 2007. We have also invited the Government of Liberia to make a presentation on its efforts to implement the Kimberley Process at that meeting.

The Kimberley Process believes that implementation of these recommendations will ensure continued monitoring and support of Liberia in the post-admission phase. We will keep you informed of progress and developments.

Karel Kovanda
Kimberley Process Chairman

cc. Hon Eugene Shannon, Minister of Lands, Mines and Energy, Liberia
Mr Alan Doss, Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Liberia
Mr Arthur Blundell, Chairman, Panel of Experts re-appointed according to paragraph 4 of (UNSCR) resolution 1731 (2006)

Attachment:
Chair's Notice of 3 May 2007 (admission of Liberia)

3 May 2007

Subject: KP Chair's Notice: Admission of Liberia to the Kimberley Process

The Security Council by its resolution 1753 (2007) has lifted the diamond embargo in respect of Liberia first imposed by resolution 1343 (2001).

The Kimberley Process has sent three expert missions to Liberia in 2005, 2006 and 2007, the most recent of which concluded that Liberia had designed effective controls in line with Kimberley Process requirements. Its report is attached. Liberia has carried out the preparations prior to admission recommended by the third expert mission. Liberia and the relevant KP working groups are encouraged to work on its post-admission recommendations.

The Participation Committee has now reviewed Liberia's application to join the KP and recommended that Liberia should be admitted to the KPCS. As recommended by the Participation Committee, Liberia is therefore admitted to the Kimberley Process as of 4 May 2007.

The current list of Participants is annexed for your information.

Karel KOVANDA
Chairman of the Kimberley Process

Annex

States and regional economic integration organizations who have met the minimum requirements of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme as at 3 May 2007 are:

1. Angola
2. Armenia
3. Australia
4. Bangladesh
5. Belarus
6. Botswana
7. Brazil
8. Canada
9. Central African Republic
10. China, People's Republic of
11. Congo, Democratic Republic of
12. Côte d' Ivoire
13. Croatia
14. European Community
15. Ghana
16. Guinea
17. Guyana
18. India
19. Indonesia
20. Israel
21. Japan
22. Korea, Republic of
23. Lao, Democratic Republic of
24. Lebanon
25. Lesotho
26. Liberia
27. Malaysia
28. Mauritius
29. Namibia
30. New Zealand
31. Norway
32. Russian Federation
33. Sierra Leone
34. Singapore
35. South Africa
36. Sri Lanka
37. Switzerland
38. Tanzania
39. Thailand
40. Togo
41. Ukraine
42. United Arab Emirates
43. United States of America
44. Venezuela
45. Vietnam
46. Zimbabwe

NOTE: The rough diamond-trading entity of Chinese Taipei has also met the minimum requirements of the KPCS

Annex II

Letter dated 23 July 2007 from the Chairman of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1521 (2003) concerning Liberia

I have the honour to write to you in my capacity as Chairman of the Kimberley Process.

Further to my letter dated 7 May 2007 (reference ER/A2/KK/AK D(2007) 507132), I am providing an update on the status of Liberia within the Kimberley Process. As you will recall, Liberia was admitted as a Participant in the Kimberley Process as of 4 May 2007, following a positive recommendation to that effect by the Participation Committee of the Kimberley Process.

A high-level delegation from Liberia, led by Vice-Minister Fayia, attended the Intersessional meeting of Kimberley Process working groups in Brussels from 12 to 14 June 2007, and presented its efforts to implement the Kimberley Process. UNMIL's role and assistance was presented by Raul Carrera, one of its civil affairs officers. The findings and recommendations of the Kimberley Process expert mission were also presented, and various Kimberley Process working groups tasked with follow-up.

Implementation of most of the recommendations remains ongoing. Liberia has joined the Working Group of Artisanal/Alluvial Producers (Recommendation 10) and participated in its discussions at the intersessional focusing on internal controls.

We understand that the Government of Liberia continues to work on awareness-raising, with the financial support of USAID/OTI and UNDP, and on finalizing preparations for the resumption of exports which is expected shortly. Relationships with other appropriate Ministries, in particular the Ministry of Finance, continue to be developed. A customs official has been assigned to the Government Diamond Office, which will be essential in ensuring close co-operation on efficient and proper import and export procedures.

A two day workshop 'Building Confidence in Mining Communities' was held in Monrovia July 3-4, sponsored by USAID/OTI, and focusing on ensuring coherence between the roles of the new regional officers and those of the mineral inspectors and mining agents. Nearly 40 participants engaged in active debate and identified areas of tension in perceived job descriptions, roles and responsibilities. Consensus was reached on improving the levels of local communication, using the resident mining agent as the field coordination point.

A USAID funded programme (LIBAMM) hosted a three day workshop on development of MDAs - Mineral Development Agreements - crucial to both large-scale miners and local communities, opening lines of communication on this issue

Under the current USAID/OTI grant, regional officers are addressing local border and security check points. The Government Diamond Office and Customs will hold a procedural workshop at Roberts International Airport in Monrovia during the week of 23 July.

Others, including De Beers aided by Dubai Multi Commodities Centre, and the KP Secretariat, have helped to advise the Government of Liberia on procedures and Kimberley Process requirements. It is clear that a significant amount of goodwill exists to support Liberia in the resumption of its diamond trade.

The Kimberley Process will request a report on implementation of the expert mission's recommendations from the Government of Liberia at the forthcoming annual Plenary meeting to be held in Brussels the week of 5 November.

Karel Kovanda
Kimberley Process Chairman

cc. Hon Eugene Shannon, Minister of Lands, Mines and Energy, Liberia
Mr Alan Doss, Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Liberia